

1 CLAIMS

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3 1. A method of providing a predetermined-prize bonus round in a game, the method
4 including the steps of:

5 (a) associating a respective game player's game play result with a predetermined-
6 prize bonus round;

7 (b) presenting the game player with a number of selection options from which to
8 choose during the predetermined-prize bonus round;

9 (c) concealing the game play result from the game player during the predetermined-
10 prize bonus round until the game player selects one of the selection options; and

11 (d) displaying the game play result to the game player in response to the game
12 player's selection of any one of the number of selection options.

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14 2. The method of claim 1 further including the step of responding to the receipt of a non-
15 bonus round game play result by displaying the non-bonus round game play result to the
16 game player, the non-bonus round game play result not being associated with the
17 predetermined-prize bonus round.

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19 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the game comprises a bingo-type game and the game play
20 result includes a bingo card pattern.

- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of associating the game play result with the
2 predetermined-prize bonus round is performed in response to a random event.
3
- 4 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of associating the game play result with the
5 predetermined-prize bonus round is performed in response to a predetermined event.
6
- 7 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of associating the game play result with the
8 predetermined-prize bonus round is performed according to a predetermined relationship
9 between the game play result and the predetermined-prize bonus round.
10
- 11 7. The method of claim 1 wherein:
12 (a) the step of presenting the game player with the number of selection options from
13 which to choose during the predetermined-prize bonus round includes the step of
14 presenting a graphical depiction of a number of objects from which to select; and
15 (b) the step of displaying the game play result to the game player includes displaying
16 a graphical depiction in which the game play result is revealed in connection with
17 the selected object in response to the game player's selection of the selected
18 object.
19
- 20 8. The method of claim 1 wherein:
21 (a) the step of presenting the game player with the number of selection options from
22 which to choose during the predetermined-prize bonus round includes the step of

1 presenting a graphical depiction of a number of objects representing respective
2 participants in a contest; and

- 3 (a) the step of displaying the game play result to the game player includes presenting
4 a graphical depiction of an outcome of the contest responsive to receiving the
5 game player's selection.

6
7 9. A system for providing a predetermined-prize bonus round in a game, the system
8 including:

- 9 (a) a player station being operable to generate a game play request in response to an
10 input by a respective player, the player station including a display device;
11 (b) a game server operable to identify a game play result for the game play request;
12 and
13 (c) a display controller for causing the display device to present the game player with
14 a number of selection options from which to choose during a predetermined-prize
15 bonus round associated with the game play result, to conceal the game play result
16 from the game player during the predetermined-prize bonus round until the game
17 player chooses one of the selection options, and to display the game play result to
18 the game player in response to the game player's selection of any one of the
19 number of selection options.

- 1 10. The system of claim 9 further including a bonus association controller for associating the
2 game result with the predetermined-prize bonus round.
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- 4 11. The system of claim 10 wherein the bonus association controller associates the result with
5 the predetermined-prize bonus round in response to a random event.
6
- 7 12. The system of claim 10 wherein the bonus association controller associates the result with
8 the predetermined-prize bonus round in response to a predetermined event.
9
- 10 13. The system of claim 10 wherein the bonus association controller is located with the game
11 server.
12
- 13 14. The system of claim 10 wherein the bonus association controller is located with the player
14 station.
15
- 16 15. The system of claim 9 wherein the display controller presents the game player with the
17 number of selection options by presenting a graphical depiction of a number of objects,
18 and wherein the player station responds to the game player's selection by presenting a
19 graphical depiction in which the game play result is revealed in connection with the
20 selected object.
21

1 16. The system of claim 9 wherein the display controller presents the game player with the
2 number of selection options by presenting a graphical depiction of a number of objects
3 representing respective participants in a contest, and wherein the player station responds
4 to the game player's selection by presenting a graphical depiction of an outcome of the
5 contest.

6
7 17. The system of claim 9 wherein the display controller is also operable to cause the display
8 device to display a non-bonus game play result to the game player in response to the
9 receipt of the non-bonus game play result.

10
11 18. A program product for communicating a game play result to a game player, the program
12 product being stored on a computer readable medium and including:

- 13 (a) selection option display program code for responding to a game play result
14 associated with a predetermined-prize bonus round by causing a player display to
15 present the game player with a number of selection options from which to choose;
16 and
17 (b) bonus round display program code for causing the player display to display the
18 game play result to the game player in response to the game player's selection of
19 any one of the number of selection options.

- 1 19. The program product of claim 18 further including primary display program code for
2 responding to a non-bonus game play result by causing the player display to display the
3 non-bonus game play result.
4
- 5 20. The program product of claim 18 further including bonus round associating program code
6 for associating a game play result with the predetermined-prize bonus round to categorize
7 the game play result as the second type game play result.
8
- 9 21. The program product of claim 18 wherein the bonus round associating program code
10 associates the game play result with the predetermined-prize bonus round in response to
11 an event unrelated to the game play result.
12
- 13 22. The program product of claim 18 wherein the selection option display program code
14 causes the player display to present a graphical depiction of a number of objects from
15 which the game player selects, and wherein the bonus round display program code causes
16 the player display to present a graphical depiction in which the game play result is
17 revealed in connection with a respective one of the objects in response to the game
18 player's selection of the respective object.
19
- 20 23. The program product of claim 18 wherein the selection option display program code
21 causes the player display to present a graphical depiction of a number of contestants from
22 which the game player selects, and wherein the bonus round result display program code

1 causes the player display to present a graphical depiction in which the game play result is
2 revealed as an outcome of a contest between the number of contestants in response to the
3 game player's selection of a respective one of the contestants.

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